



# Parent newsletter - Friday 19th December 2025

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## Headteacher's welcome

As we come to the end of another busy and successful term, I want to thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. This week, the teachers have received lovely cards, gifts and treats for the staff room, and extend their gratitude. THANK YOU!

This term, our staff have worked extremely hard to ensure that Caldecote remains a Happy, Healthy, High-Achieving school with the aim that every pupil feels valued and supported to reach their full potential. Some of the highlights of our work include:

- A refreshed focus on our school vision and values, which guide everything we do. (There is more work to be done on this in the new year!)
- Developing the morning 'meet and greet' process - Headteacher, Pastoral Lead and familiar adults in High-Viz on the playground each day, and parents encouraged to walk their children to the classroom door to support the daily transition into school.
- Changes to the end of day procedures to ensure class teachers hand over their own class to facilitate better communication with parents.
- The introduction of a new assessment framework and tracking system to help us better understand and support your child's progress. Key information around assessment shared with parents at consultation meetings, and presentation recently emailed.
- Recent professional development for our teachers in reading led by the Local Authority English Adviser. This has supported the development of our lesson sequence to make reading even more engaging and memorable.
- In Mathematics, introducing small, carefully planned steps for each lesson to help every pupil to develop strong foundations and build confidence.
- Launching assemblies that focus on broadening pupils' horizons and teaching important lessons about community and safety.
- New working groups for our teaching assistants to lead and develop projects like Equaliteach and Rights Respecting Schools, promoting inclusion and wellbeing, and Eco Schools Green Flag Award, reflecting our commitment to caring for the environment.
- Reviewing our approaches in Writing, Phonics, Maths, and SEND to ensure we are using the best evidence-based practises. We are proud of the progress made this term and grateful to our dedicated staff who make this possible. We look forward to continuing this journey in the new year.

Below are a few snippets of the fun activities that have rounded off this term...It has been a joy to see the children excited and enthused! I feel privileged to be the headteacher of this school.

Wishing you all a happy and restful holiday, from all the team.

With best wishes,

Mrs Strange

Merry  
Christmas

## House Point Cup Winners - Autumn term

Our House Point competition has reached an exciting conclusion - McGonagall House has claimed the coveted House Point Cup!



## Year 6 Science - Heart dissection

Year 6 took part in an unforgettable practical science lesson: a real heart dissection. Building on our work in the circulatory system, pupils explored the structure and function of the heart in a highly engaging, hands-on way. They identified key features such as the ventricles, atria, valves, and major blood vessels, linking each part to its role in pumping blood around the body.

Reactions in the room were priceless. Some children leaned in with the enthusiasm of future surgeons, absolutely fascinated by every detail. Others took a slightly more cautious approach, offering a polite “yuk” while bravely peeking from behind their gloves. Regardless of their initial feelings, every pupil showed maturity, curiosity, and a willingness to challenge themselves.

It was a brilliant opportunity to deepen their scientific understanding and experience real enquiry in action, with plenty of memorable moments along the way.







## Christmas Dinner

Our whole school Christmas Dinner was a highlight, bringing everyone together to celebrate. A big thank you to our wonderful kitchen team for the delicious meal (the pudding was amazing!), and our staff and governors, Pete and Paul, for their support in serving the children.















## Year 5 and Year 6 Quiz

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*Our Year 5 and Year 6 children brought energy and competitive spirit to our Christmas quiz. The teams were mixed to develop friendships and comradery within the two year groups. The "Christmas Curry" team emerged victorious! Well done team!*

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## Christmas Fun!

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*We've been continuing our school's custom of surprising unsuspecting staff members by crowning them with the prestigious "Turkey Head" title.*

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## Class catch ups - Purple Class

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*Each week, the individual classes will take it in turns to share some details about the exciting events happening in their classroom. This week, it is the turn of Purple class!*

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We have had a fantastic half term in Purple Class. Our topic has been Rainforests and we have learnt about the different layers of the rainforest and investigated the significance of deforestation.

This week, as part of DT, the pupils created an interactive game using programming skills on Scratch and a Makey Makey extension as a controller. These games were based on our knowledge of the rainforest and the pupils had to be resilient when creating their design and coding the programme. The children worked really hard to accomplish this and they were proud of their finished products.

We have also been reading *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell and we have really enjoyed this story so far. The book is filled with adventure and interesting characters.

This week, 4 members of Purple Class also took part in the Public Speaking competition and last week we all wrote our own speeches in answer to the question, 'Being cautious or taking risks: which is more important?' As a class we initially debated the question and consider our own opinion before writing our persuasive arguments using rhetorical questions, noun phrases and modal verbs.

Well done for working so hard to do your best Purple Class.

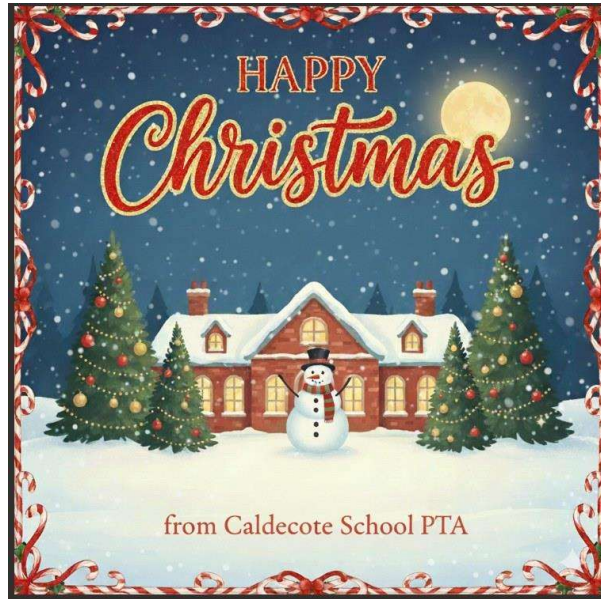
## **A HUGE THANK YOU FROM THE PTA!**

A HUGE THANK YOU!

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all of you for the incredible support you've shown towards the PTA events this term. Thanks to your generosity and enthusiasm, so far we have raised £3980! Our top fund raisers were Christmas Fair, including the online Raffle baskets (£2,549) and The Autumn Disco (£693.30).

These funds will go directly towards enriching the school experience for our children, and none of this would have been possible without your kindness, time, and energy.

Happy Christmas from Caldecote School PTA



## Equaliteach conference - hosted by Caldecote!

**On 7th January 2026, we will be hosting the “Agents for Change”!**

We’re delighted to share that our school has been selected to take part in—and host—a very special one-day event called **“Agents for Change.”** This exciting day will give six pupils from Years 5 and 6 the chance to discover how they can make a real difference in our school and the wider community.

The event is supported by **EqualiTeach**, thanks to funding from the **Cambridgeshire Community Foundation**, and promises to be a fun, interactive experience for everyone involved!

### **What’s it all about?**

Pupils will explore important topics like **equality, diversity, and inclusion** through exciting activities that build confidence and teamwork. They’ll discover how to challenge bullying, promote respect, and create a school environment where everyone feels valued.

### **During the day, pupils will:**

- Find ways to **challenge bullying** and encourage kindness.
- Learn how to **listen to and understand others’ experiences**.
- Design their own **equality initiatives** to make a real difference.
- Share ideas and provide **peer-to-peer support** to tackle inequality and exclusion.

This event will bring together up to **30 young people from different primary schools**, creating an amazing opportunity to collaborate and share ideas.

We're proud to be working with **EqualiTeach**, a national charity dedicated to promoting equality and inclusion in education. Their mission is to inspire and equip people to create safe, welcoming spaces where everyone can thrive.

## Diary Dates



### Dates for the Diary

2025 PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THE DATES SO YOU DON'T MISS ANYTHING

\* against the date is a new addition to the calendar

Date	Event	Time
Tuesday 6th January	Spring term begins	8.40am
Friday 9th January	Green class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Friday 9th January		
Monday 12th-Friday 6th January	Healthy You Week	All day
Wednesday 14th January	KS1 Welcome Wednesday	8.40am-9.00am
Friday 16th January	Purple class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Monday 19th January	Public speaking final	1.30pm
Tuesday 20th January	YR & Y6 Weighing & Measuring	10.45am
Wednesday 21st January	Young Voices @ C2 Arena London	10.00am-11.00pm
Friday 22nd January	Silver class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Tuesday 27th January	NSPCC "Speak out stay safe workshop"	All day
Wednesday 28th January	KS2 Welcome Wednesday	8.40am-9.00am
Friday 30th January	Parents working group	8.50am -10.00am
Friday 30th January	Red class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Friday 30th January	Break the rules day	All day
Friday 6th February	Blue class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Wednesday 11th February	KS1 Welcome Wednesday	8.40am-9.00am
Friday 13th February	Yellow class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Friday 27th February	Orange class celebration assembly	8.40am-9.00am
Wednesday 26th February	KS2 Welcome Wednesday	8.40am-9.00am
Friday 6th March	Green class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Wednesday 11th March	KS1 Welcome Wednesday	8.40am-9.00am
Wednesday 13th March	Purple class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Friday 20th March	Parents working group	8.50am -10.00am
Friday 20th March	Silver class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Wednesday 26th March	KS2 Welcome Wednesday	8.40am-9.00am
Friday 27th March	Red class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Friday 8th May	Parents working group	8.50am -10.00am
Friday 26th June	Parents working group	8.50am -10.00am